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VIKRAM BAL VARTA PART - 1

(A Picture Book Of Bravely Awarded)

: Illustred by :

Pu. Upadhyay **VISRUTYASHVIJAYJI** Maharaj

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Preface

The seeds of bravery, courage, self-confidence and the desire to do something planted in childhood would go a long way in creating eminent and patriotic citizens for our Country.

Since 1957, the Govt. of India and Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW) have been giving bravery awards to children for their acts of courage and to inspire others through them. Five categories of awards are (1) The Bharat Award Since 1987, (2) Geeta Chopra Award Since 1978, (3) Sanjay Chopra Award Since 1978, (4) Bapu Gaidhani Award Since 1988 and (5) the General National Bravery Award Since 1957. Medals, Certificates, Cash Prizes and Educational Scholarship are given to about 25 children every year.

Hard work, Courage, Commendation and reward are invaluable jewels which people don't get all together in their lifetimes. Very few amongst hundreds and thousands create history by setting an example by their unparalled acts of courage in difficult times. This becomes an inspiration for others.

These true stories of courage, each better than the other, teach us to be brave and take quick decisions in adversities. These are source of inspiration not only for children, but adults too.

While reading you might feel that the characters in these stories dwell around us or in our neighborhoods or within ourselves. Only their ability to take right decisions at the right time have made them special. These National Award winning children all with different names, regions, ages and circumstances have one thing in common, and that is their act of unparalleted courage, wisdom and strong determination to save others lives even while putting their own lives in danger.

Such true stories from the lives of so many children prove that heroism, courage and presence of mind are not the monopoly of any person, caste or religion. Such sagas of valour and courage can be found not only in India but in every nook and corner of the world. Whether someone has saved another from being washed away in flood or from fire or a road accident or an attack by man-eaters or faced thieves and robbers with determination, the stories of such brave children must be written in golden letters, noting that some children lost their lives in this process. There are many occasions in life when we face adverse circumstances. At that time, we have only two paths ahead of us. One is to run away and save your own life. Second is to save the lives of others without caring for one's own life.

The Second way is really difficult and those who take this path must be courageous, selfless, intelligent and quick decision Makers, because at such times, even a slight mistake could have grave consequences.

We appreciate Vijaya Kotecha-Chennai & Raj Bhaskar, Satish Mardia-Chennai, Ahmedabad and all the donors for their contribution.

All readers are requested to read the 5 questions on Page No. 29 of this book and reply with your responses on Mo. 98244 44431, 93765 40599

UPADHYAY VISHRUTYASHVIJAY (Professor Maharaj)
Ambavadi, Ahmedabad
Dt.: 31st August 2022, Samvatsari Maha Parva

1. 'SCARE THE SCARY'

(Joana Chakraborthy)

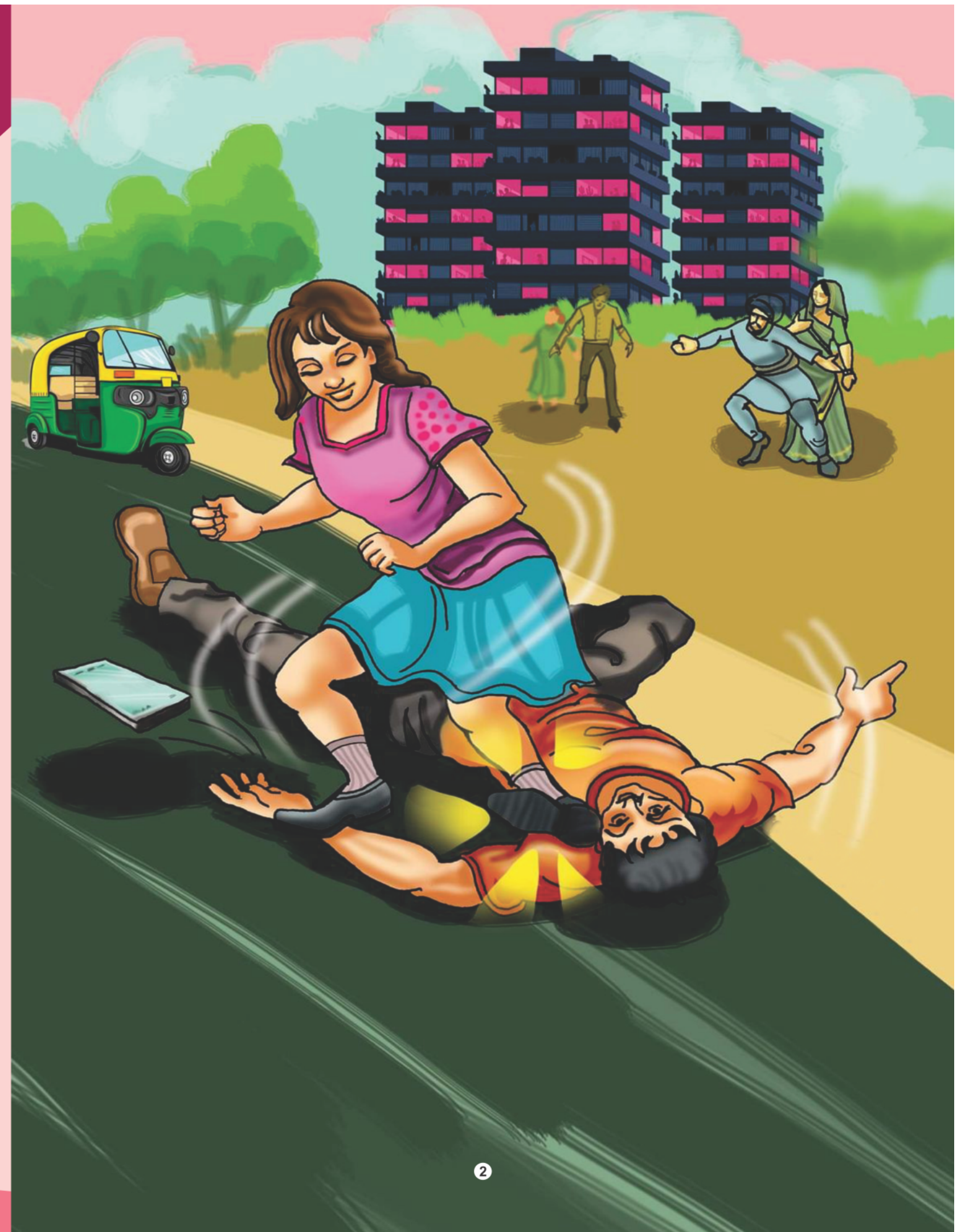
"Come in my clutches just once,
and then you will know
that this small girl is tigress or a bird"

Joana was a 10-year old small girl with a beautiful and strong physique. Though she was small but her bravery and courage was at top heights. She was inbuilt with courage to overcome any tough situation.

Chattisgarh was the place where she lived with her parents. Though physically she was a girl but her activities, dressing were more like boys. She loved to play cricket, wear pants, regular exercises and always had a short haircut.

Her parents were always worried with her boyish nature. She always tried to convince her parents by saying that, "I am a girl that doesn't mean I live with fear all the time. But I want to live my life in my own way." She always had a spirit of fighting against the wrong.

Once Joana happened to visit Delhi along with her family. It was 10 pm, she and her father were on the way back to hotel. Her father was holding an expensive mobile in his hand. Suddenly a thief came running from behind and snatched his mobile, pushed her father aside and ran away. Both were stunned and thoughtless. Suddenly Joana realized the situation and started running behind the thief with a spar in her little eyes. When the thief noticed her following him, he tried to threaten her. But there was no place for fear in her. She roared – "Come in my clutches once and then you will know that I am a small girl like a bird or a tigress". She started running behind him again. Meanwhile her parents and crowd started gathering. The by standers were surprised to see the little 10-year old girl running bravely like a tigress behind the thief. Finally she caught the thief and started hitting him. Within few minutes the crowd also joined her. They handed over the thief to police. Police inspector was very much impressed by her bravery. He said "all the girls in the country should be like you – brave and fearless".

Very soon her brave act got famous. Everyone in her hometown, Chattisgarh came to know about her brave act. Those people who always used to complain about her boyish activities started praising her with gratitude. Next day her act of bravery was published in newspapers and who ever read about the incident was surprised with happiness and pride.

2. 'NEVER LOSE COURAGE'

(Kashish Dhanani – Ahmedabad, Gujarat)

"I am my sweet little sister's elder brother, and I should save her at any cost."

It was fine evening in the month of December. Kashish a 10 year old young boy, after finishing all his homework asked his mother's permission to go out and play in the society park along with his younger sister who was just one-year old. At once mother denied, but when he requested, she agreed and asked him to take care of her and be safe. Also advised not to leave the child alone.

Kashish bounced with happiness, and assured to take care of her saying that "I am her elder brother".

Kashish held his little sister's hand and they walked towards the garden. They started playing in the garden. As it was a cool evening, the park had a less crowd. After sometime a lady entered the garden with her pet German Shepherd dog. As she was an old lady, she was unable to handle the dog's speed. She released it's belt and left it free. After sometime the dog got furious and started barking and biting Kashish and his younger sister. As soon as the dog headed towards the baby, Kashish started protesting. Inspite of crying and fearing, he started fighting with the dog. The noise dragged the cops attention. He came running with a stick and chased the dog. Everyone patted Kashish with pride. Everyone was inspired by his bravery. Kashish was invited at "Republic day parade" and was rewarded for his courageous act.

Moral : Never lose hope in any sort of worst situation, always face it with courage and bravery.

3. 'BRAVERY AWARD'

(Rakesh Shanabhai Patel – Gujarat)

"He Courageously jumped in the well and saved both of them."

On Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh border was situated a beautiful village called "Devgarh". The nature around the village was mesmerizing. It was beautiful as a bride.

This was the place where a brave boy named Rakesh lived. Unfortunately he was an orphan from childhood. Although he was just thirteen years old, his courage and presence of mind was not less than an adult. He was very intelligent as well as helping natured. His helping nature was the good quality which created a soft corner in everybody's heart.

It was chilled evening in the month of December. Local resident Parsingh's two little sons Dinesh and Hasmukh were playing. They were so very much involved in their play that they did not realize that they were heading towards a boundary-less well. The younger one came running to catch his elder brother, and before he could realize anything, he fell down in the well. The elder brother Dinesh could not understand anything, he just wanted to save his brother. Without giving a second thought he also jumped into the well. They both started screaming for help. But unfortunately they were very much far away from the village, and it was impossible for anyone to hear them.

Luckily while passing by, Rakesh heard a low voice of someone. He looked here and there but could not see anyone. He started searching everywhere without delay. After sometime the voice stopped. He understood that someone is in severe trouble. But was unable to trace them. But without losing hope he searched tirelessly. Suddenly, he saw the well. He feared whether someone had fallen into the well. Slowly and carefully he neared the well and peeped into it. He could see both the boys. It was impossible to expect anybody's help. Finally, he took a deep breath and took a decision to jump into the well. He held the root of a tree strongly and asked both the boys not to fear. He offered his hand to them. After struggling for few hours, finally Rakesh successfully pulled them out of the well.

Very soon the villagers and the parents came at the spot searching for them. When they came to know the whole incident everyone praised and patted Rakesh. Everyone was just speaking about his bravery. He had set one good live example of bravery and presence of mind.

This incident made Rakesh famous not only all over the village, but also in the whole district. Next day his story of bravery was in newspaper headlines.

Rakesh was nominated for "Geeta Chopra" award by the government. On Dt. 26th January 2016 in the Republic day parade, he was invited and awarded by our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Rakesh was respected and loved by everyone.

4. 'GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP OTHERS'

(RamdinThara - Mizoram)

"If we help others, God always helps us."

On India's north-eastern side there is a beautiful state named Mizoram. This story is all about a boy named Ramdin who lived in a village of Mizoram. He was simple, compassionate and bold by nature. His father worked in a tea shop at railway station which was the only source of income for the family. This 15-year old boy Ramdin always wanted to help his father in his work. He tried to manage going to the shop to help his father along with his school studies. But his father always wanted him to focus on his studies rather than work.

But Ramdin was more matured than his age. He used to tell his father, "No work is small and I cannot keep studying the whole day. So in my free time it is ideal to help you. Because work is also important in life." He often used to give examples of our Honorable P.M. Mr. Narendra Modi, saying that he also used to work hard in a tea shop.

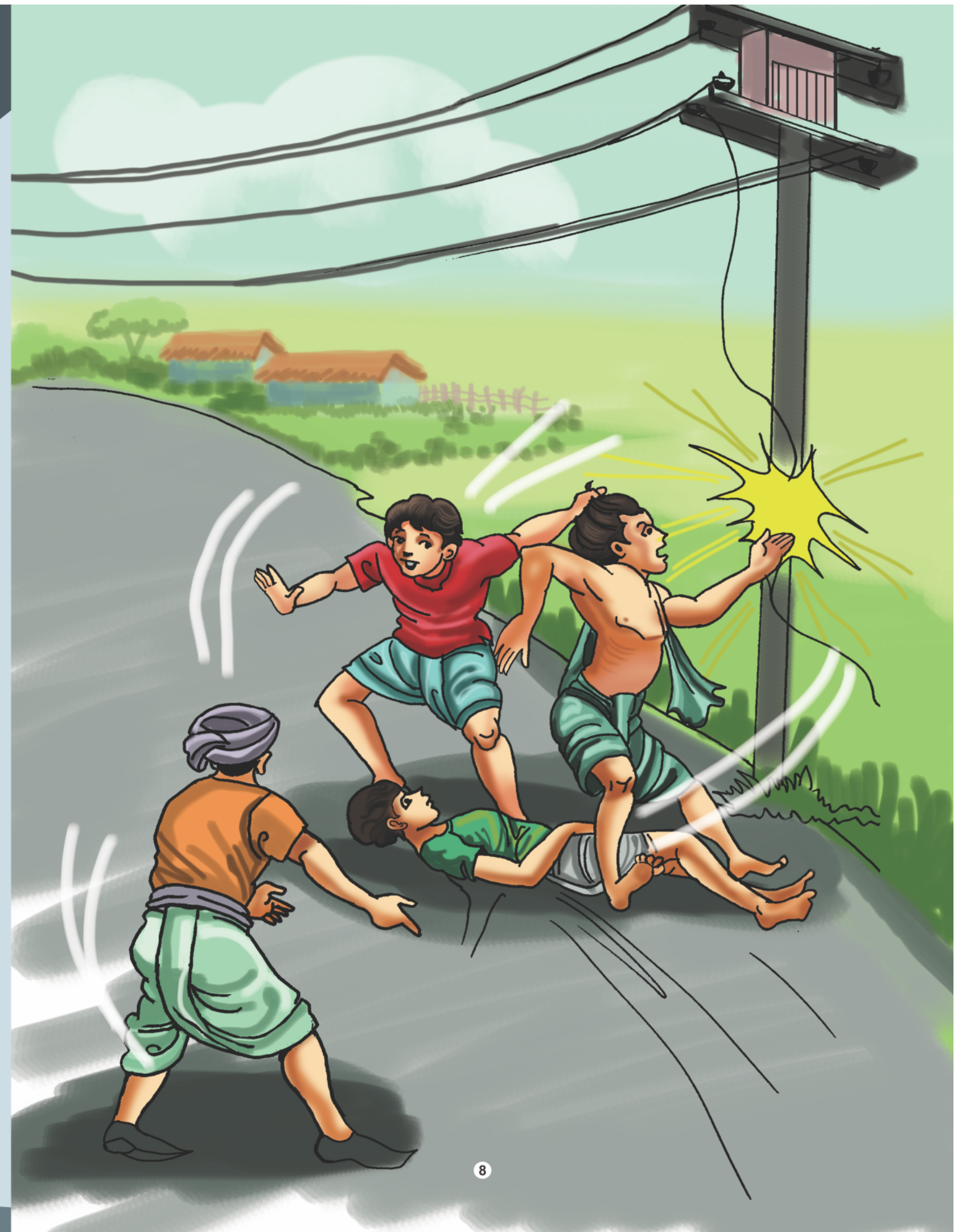
By listening to his words his father used to fill with pride. He advised him – "Do good not only for the family, but serve society and country as well."

It was the month of Jan, 2015. There was only one way for entry and exit from the village. There was a high tension transformer in that way, that was the reason why all villagers used to fear to cross by that way. They always avoided this road and always used to take a long route to go out of village.

One day two boys who were friends, wanted to go out of the village and they chose the short cut.

One said,"I don't fear anything. Nothing will happen to us." But the other one protested and asked him to take the other route, as he wanted to be on the safer side. But the first one was so adamant, he refused and insisted on taking the short cut. As they were walking by that way, by mistake one of them touched the electric wire and both were caught by the high voltage current. Both started shouting. Ramdin along with his father was passing by and could hear the scream. Both of them ran to help them. Ramdin started searching for a wooden stick or a plank every-where. But could not find any. Ramdin, instead of getting panicked, started to think what could be the other way out. Suddenly, he jumped and pulled one of them forcefully by his hair, and they both were apart now. He repeated the same with the other boy also and saved both their lives. Ramdin's self-confidence and courage worked. Both boys were then admitted to hospital.

When the doctors and the villagers came to know about how Ramdin saved their lives, all were surprised by his bravery. Ramdin said,"I learned to help others from my parents. Never deny or delay in helping anyone, because God helps those who help others".

Whole Mizoram was proud of Ramdin. He was selected and called on Dt. 26th January 2016 Republic day parade at New Delhi and was given Geeta Chopra bravery award by our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

5. 'THANKS TO THE BRAVE'

(Nitin Phillipe Mathew)

"This is my best friend's house, how can I allow it to burn".

This story is all about a small town of the beautiful South Indian state,Kerala. All people here were of middle class. They worked hard and earned their livelihood. The story is about a small boy named Nitin. Michael and Sonia were parents of Anthony, who was Nitin's best friend. One morning this couple was very happy and while having a cup of tea together, were talking about their small but sweet home which they owned recently. Wife said, "By doing our everyday savings little by little, finally we have built our home. It is such a glad moment. Our home seems like heaven to me."

As both were sharing their happiness with each other. Nitin entered the house. He heard what they spoke. Especially the concept of small everyday savings. No unnecessary expenses to be done. He liked the idea of savings very much. He thought,"Even I can build my own house if I save money." He also wanted to get rid of landlord's torture as he lived in a rental house. He asked Michael to send Anthony for tuitions along with him. But Michael said he won't be able to attend the tuition as they were supposed to visit their relatives. So Nitin left alone for the tuitions.

While returning back from his tuition class, he passed by the same road where Anthony lived. He was still thinking about savings and owning a house.

But nature had something else in store for them. Something really bad and unexpected. Anthony's mother, while leaving home, unfortunately forgot to switch-off the cooking gas cylinder. As there was no one at home, all the doors and windows were closed. Above all an electric switch was left on. Now the gas started spreading all over the house and as soon as it came in contact with the electric current, there was a blast.

Nitin was shocked and surprised to hear the blast. He started shouting for help. But no one was there to help him. He was stunned, the only thought running in his was – "This is my friend's house, how can I let it burn."

Without losing heart, he courageously stepped ahead. He filled a bucket with water and started pouring on the door which had caught fire. He tirelessly continued to do the same, forgetting that he was just 14 years old. He ran and repeated the same until the fire was extinguished. While doing this, he burnt his face, hands, legs here and there but was least bothered about his own burns. His hardwork was not in vain. He saved 3/4th of the house from fire. Fire brigade came to rescue. They praised Nitin, meanwhile Anthony's parents also came running and were shocked to see all this. When they came to know about Nitin's bravery, they embraced him and patted him. The officers said that it was only Nitin who saved the house.

Nitin's bravery got famous and spread all over like aroma. Next morning newspaper's headlines were on his bravery act. He was rewarded with the Geeta Chopra award on Dt. 26th January 2016 during Republic day parade by our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

6. 'EVEN GOD HELPS COURAGEOUS MEN'

(Sai Krishnan AkhilKilambi)

"If problem comes, I can face it alone"

This story is all about a brave 14-year old boy named Sai. His way of talking portrayed that he was a broad minded, mature and intelligent person.

One day while playing with friends, his friend Anil said, "Do you know Hitu ? Some people came hurt his friend badly when they were on their way to school. But Hitu is a coward he did not protest against the notorious boys." When Sai met Hitu, he asked him,"Why did you not protest ? Why are you so afraid of them? This was really shameful. When your friend needed help, why didn't you help him ? What if you were in his place ?"

Hitesh got angry and said,"Sai, let me see how brave you act when you are stuck in such a situation."

Sai promised,"Whatever might be the situation, I will face it boldly." One winter evening, there was silence all around as if it was midnight. Sai's father had not yet returned from office.There was darkness all around as there was no current. Power supply often used to play hide and seek in their area. Sai's house had an invertor, so they could run a few lights. Sai's mother asked him to go and study in his room. He did as asked. Suddenly he could hear someone cry. He kept his books aside and went out in the direction of the voice. He first went to kitchen but couldn't see anyone. The cries still continued. He then went to the invertor room. He was stunned to see his mother who had fell down due to current and almost looked like she was paralysed. He remembered the challenge he had made to Hitesh and decided to save his mother at any cost.

Sai immediately brought a wooden stick and hit it on the wire which caught his mother. His mother was now free from the wire. He switched-off the invertor. As soon as he switched it off, it was dark all over. He tried to make his mother comfortable and checked her heartbeat.

He ran to his neighborhood and asked for help. He called an ambulance and took her to the hospital. Sai finally saved his mother's life. Within a few days she got fine and returned home. Doctors also praised him.

Media coverage was done on his act of bravery. One evening Sai met Hitesh. Hitesh congratulated him on fulfilling his promise and promised Sai that he too will face situations bravely. His courage and presence of mind had saved his mother. Hitesh thanked Sai for making him fearless.

Sai's story of bravery spread all over. Everybody was praising him. The central government opted Sai for bravery award. On Dt. 26th January 2016 Republic Day, he was rewarded the Geeta Chopra award by our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

This incident teaches us to be fearless and have presence of mind.

7. 'AMAZING GRANNY'

(Ruchita Shivampet - Telangana)

"Ruchita saved both,
as soon as she jumped out it blasted"

It was early morning on 24th July, 2015. Ruchita along with her younger brother and sister was ready for school. All the three were waiting for the bus. Meanwhile she saw a squirrel in the garden was struggling for a piece of bread. She went and helped it. Her mother always called her "granny". Her mother told her to take care of her younger brother and sister as she took care of the squirrel. Ruchita promised – "I will do so".

All the three of them sat in the bus. Ruchita advised all the children in the bus to sit silently. She also advised the driver of the bus not to talk with anyone while driving. There was a railway crossing ahead. But unfortunately there were no crossing barriers there. The bus ran in its speed towards the railway crossing. There was a train heading on the railway track which was unnoticed by the bus driver. The bus got stopped and got stuck on the railway track. The bus driver was unable to restart it. All got panicky as the train was heading towards the bus. All thought they were trapped and there is no way out to escape. But Ruchita did not lose hope. She got up to pull her brother and sister out. She had pulled only one of them and the train hit the front body of the bus. The bumper was fully damaged. The front of the bus caught fire. All the children tried to come out from the back gate. Ruchita and others were badly hurt. Suddenly Ruchita noticed that two children were left behind in the bus. She ran and got into the bus. Both of them were in panic. But Ruchita got them out of the bus. As soon as she came out and reached a safe place there was a blast in the bus and the bus was scattered into pieces.

In this incident the bus driver, conductor and 15 children lost their lives. The rest were taken to a hospital. Ruchita, unfortunately, lost her younger sister Nikita also. But those who witnessed Ruchita's bravery praised her.

In this incident those whoever was saved was only because of Ruchita. T.V. Newspaper and the whole media was highlighting her courage. Ruchita's mother with tears in her eyes could just say – "I am proud of you my child."

But Ruchita was sad and regretted that she could not save her sister's life. She herself was just 8 years old. But her courage and bravery was not less than a soldier.

The central government welcomed and praised her. She was rewarded with Geeta Chopra award on Dt. 26th January 2016 during Republic day parade. Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi presented her the award.

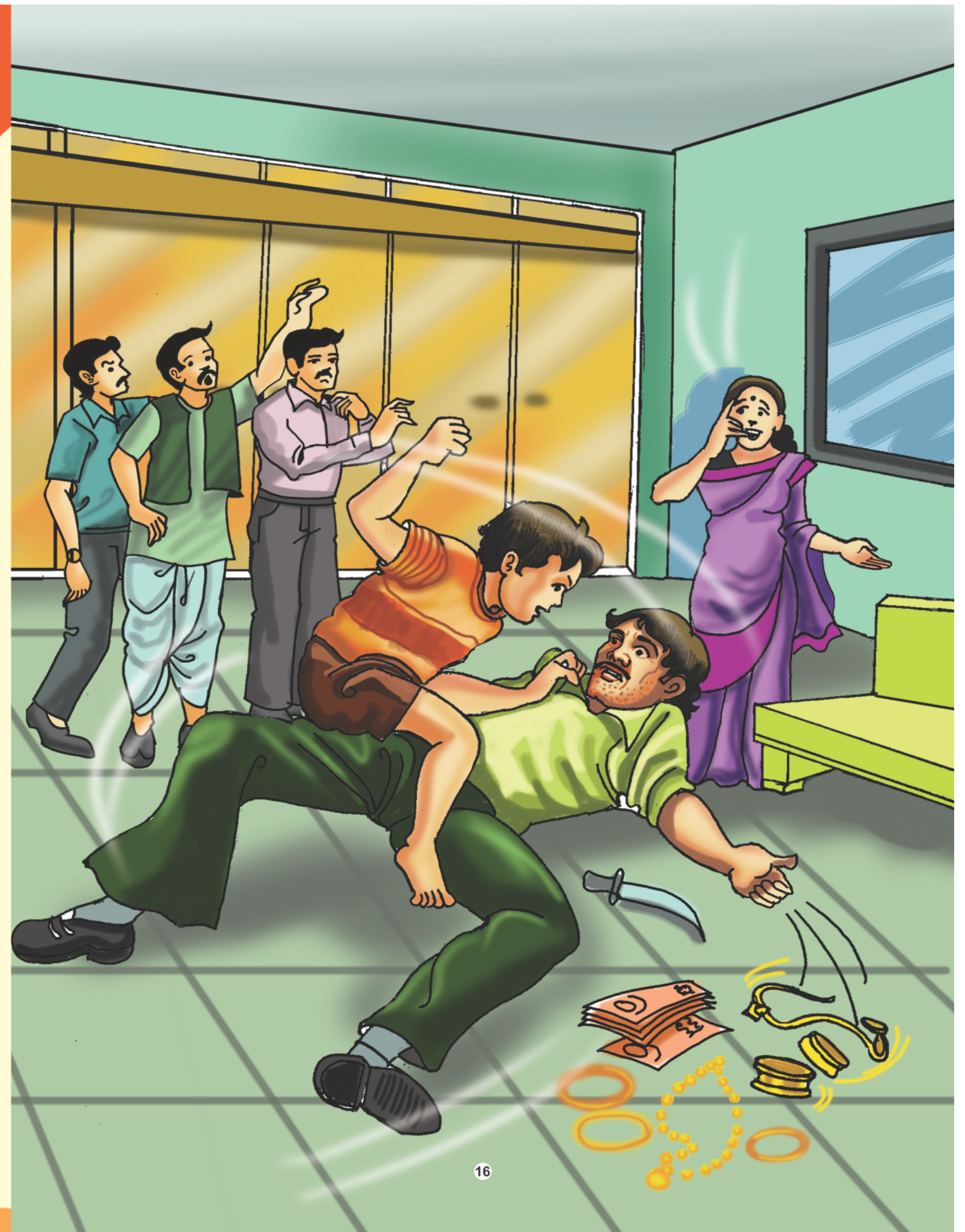
She had proven, "Those who don't lose hope, never get defeated in life".

8. 'TIT-FOR-TAT'

(Dishant Mehandirta - Haryana)

"Uncle don't hit my mother. I will not cry".

Dishant lived in a small village of Haryana along with his parents. One hot Sunday morning, Dishant was at home as it was school holiday but his father went out for work. After lunch Dishant switched on the T.V. and started watching "Mighty Raju" cartoon. His mother finished her work in kitchen and went to her room to take some rest. She asked Dishant to switch off the T.V. as he was watching it from a long time. His mother shouted and asked, "Dishant, what do you gain or learn from these cartoons ?"Dishant said, "Mom, I learn how to be brave. But his mother insisted him to switch off the T.V. He switched off the T.V. and slept. As it was hot outside, no one was out on the road.Everyone wanted to be indoors in this harsh summer. It appeared to be like curfew from 2-5 pm. Both were sleeping.Suddenly around 3pm, the doorbell rang. His mother got up and went to open the door. As she opened the door she saw a young boy with a big box in his hands. She asked him what it was. He said it was an LCD T.V. and someone has sent it on your address. The courier boy asked for a glass of water. As soon as she went to the kitchen to get water for him, he jumped and locked the door from inside. He took out a knife and kept it on Dishant's mother's neck. Dishant got panicked and started crying. But the intruder threatened him and asked him to stop crying. Dishant said, "Ok I'll not cry, but please leave my mother. Don't hurt her."The thief pushed him aside and started snatching his mother's jewellery. He started threatening her that if she utters and sound, he will kill her son. She was frightened to the core. She wept and requested him not to harm her son. He now forced her to open the locker and give all the jewellery and cash immediately. Meanwhile the knife poked on her neck and it started bleeding. Dishant was badly frightened and continuously requested to leave his mom. The boy fell down on his knees. Suddenly the little boy held the thief's feet and pushed forcefully. The thief was now on the floor. Now it was their turn. The scenario was upside down. The thief was lying on the floor and both mother and son were on his chest beating him heavily. Mother opened the door and started shouting. Within sometime, many people gathered and caught the thief and handed him to the police. Everybody was praising their courage. Everybody asked the little boy how did he do that. He replied, "I learned this from my favourite T.V. show. My hero is very brave and I always admired him and wanted to be like him."

Next morning everyone as well as the media was talking about their bravery. On Dt. 26th january 2016 he was awarded the Geeta Chopra award by our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He was given an elephant ride with pride during the Republic Day parade.

9. 'MAHABHARAT'S VICTORIOUS ARJUN'

(Arjun Singh - Uttrakhand)

"God helps those,
who help themselves."

This is all about the fight between a 16-year old boy and a wild tiger.

A village rich in its heritage was surrounded by a jungle and mountain range all round. This village was situated by the river side. This river was a natural swimming pool for the children. Arjun Singh who was 16 years old lived in this village with his parents. He was a strong boy.

As the jungle was close by, often wild animals entered the village. Sometimes deer jumped here and there and sometimes the peacock danced on the terrace.

Arjun used to play with all of them fearlessly. His mother always feared and asked him not to do so. But he replied,"These speechless animals do not do any harm to anyone unless and until we harm them. I love to feed them, let it be a Rabbit or a Tiger, it doesn't matter to me." But mother asked him to keep himself away from these wild animals.

On 15th July 2015, it was rainy season, the whole jungle was lush green. Arjun was studying at home and his parents were busy with their work. Mother was feeding stalk to the cow's. Suddenly she heard the roar of a tiger. She looked back and saw a tiger just behind her. Her blood was frozen with fear. Before she could realize the situation the tiger jumped and attacked her. Her hand was in its jaw. She struggled to free herself, but was not successful.

As soon as Arjun heard the shouts he came out running. He was shocked to see his mother caught in the tiger's jaw. Looking here and there, he saw a grass cutter.He took it in his hands and ran behind the tiger. Now Arjun roared, "Leave my mother or you will be dead." He started hitting the tiger with the grass cutter. The tiger looked at Arjun furiously.It left his mother and jumped on Arjun. Arjun and the tiger, both of them were bleeding heavily. The tiger was hurt badly, hence his hold was getting weak and loose. It was unable to bear the pain anymore. Mother was screaming for help. But here Arjun won the fight. The tiger slowly turned around and left the village. Arjun, though hurt badly, was smiling like a winner. He finally won the fight. Though he was just 16 years old but his courage was like 16000 soldiers.

Mother came running and embraced him. You are my brave little boy. You are my tiger.

Very soon his act of bravery spread all over the town. His news was on media headlines. Henceforth, Arjun was known as "Tiger".

He was awarded "The Geeta Chopra award" on Republic day 26th Jan'16 by our Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and was given an elephant ride proudly.

10. 'EVEN IF I DIE'

(Anjalika Tinsang - Meghalaya)

"I can do anything for my brother"

On one winter Sunday afternoon, being a holiday everybody was sleeping.

Anjalika was also sleeping, cozied up in her rug. Her mom was trying to wake her up. After trying to wake her up for more than half an hour, she went out for washing clothes. As soon as she went out, her younger son who was 7 months old, started crying. Anjalika immediately woke up hearing his voice. She picked him up. Mother also came running and she said,"When I was trying to wake you up, you didn't and now when your brother cried you jumped immediately. Anjalika said,"Mom, I love my brother and I can do anything for him."

Her parents were ready to go out for two hours to meet some relatives. They told Anjalika to take care of the house as well as her younger brother. She started playing with her younger brother. Suddenly, she remembered that her mother had told her to spread the clothes in the veranda. She kept her brother in the cradle and went to spread the clothes.

Suddenly something horrible happened. There was a short circuit in the wiring and a burning wire fell on the bed. The bed was soon in flames. Anjalika was unaware of the danger. Her friend had come and she was busy talking to her. The fire started spreading in the whole house. There was smoke all over as the furniture started burning. Suddenly she noticed the fire and was shocked and stunned. She screamed in shock, "Oh my God! Fire!!My younger brother is inside." And ran towards the room. Her friend protested and held her hands, but she did not stop. People also gathered and asked Anjalika to stay away from the fire. But she said,"I will save my brother at any cost." She ran and entered into the burning house. Luckily the fire had not yet reached the room where her brother was sleeping. She was relieved and ran and picked up her brother. "It's ok even if I die, I will save my brother". She took a bed sheet and wrapped her brother in it, and ran out of the door. As there was fire all around, she was burnt all over. Finally she succeeded in saving her brother.

As soon as her parents heard about the incident, they came running on the spot. When they saw both of their children safe they were relieved. When they came to know about her bravery, they were happy and proud of Anjalika and hugged her.

Next day Anjalika was the hero. Everyone was praising her and talking about her. She was famous in media also.

She was opted for bravery award by the central government. On Republic Day 26th January 2016, she was rewarded with Geeta Chopra bravery award by our Honorable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi.

11. 'DON'T WORRY, YOU ARE SAFE'

(Moris Chengom)

" Bravery without knowledge leads to trouble"

Moris lived in the beautiful state of Manipur. Though he was a small boy of class eight, his bravery and knowledge was more than his age. He always used to get top position in his class.

On Sunday, as it was a holiday Moris went to play cricket etc. along with his friends in the park. One of his friends told "I am fed up of playing the same game in the same place every time. Why not we go out somewhere else and play ?" All the boys agreed with his idea. Rodin, one of the team member suggested to go out and play on the roof of an under-construction building, which was a bit away from the garden. Everyone nodded their head but Moris was the only one who was a bit worried and felt it dangerous playing on the terrace. But as his friends were adamant, Moris had to agree. It was not only fun but also an adventure for all of them to play on the second floor roof. They started playing hide and seek. Someone was hiding behind the stones, someone behind the cement bags or water tank. Rodin ran to hide himself behind the water tank unaware of the danger lying behind it. There was an electric wire passing behind the tank. But the fun in the play made them careless. As Rodin was trying to hide himself behind the tank he touched the live electric wire and fell down with shock. He screamed and started panting. Moris could see only his hand. He tried to help him and tried to pull him by his hand. But unfortunately he also got a severe electric shock and fell apart. Moris was not only a brave boy but also an intelligent one. Hearing the scream all the friends gathered and ran to help Rodin, but Moris restricted them to do so and also made them aware of the danger. Suddenly he saw a broken wooden chair lying aside. He pulled the chair and started hitting it on Rodin's hand. Though Rodin was getting hurt but it was necessary to save his life. Finally Moris succeeded. Rodin was now free from the clutches of the electric wire. Though he got free but due to the electric shock he was badly hurt everywhere. Meanwhile people gathered there and took Rodin to hospital. After medical treatment Rodin was now feeling better. All his friends visited his house to see him. Rodin told his parents that it was Moris who bravely saved his life. Rodin's parents thanked him. Moris was now everyone's hero. He was getting a big round of applause for his courage.

Moris not only saved Rodin's life but he also indirectly saved all his other friends' life with his presence of mind.

Everyone in and around the area was talking about Moris and his courage. Media was also playing an important role in appreciating Moris.

Moris was honoured with Geeta Chopra bravery award by our Honorable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi on Republic Day 26th January 2016.

12. 'GAVE GUN SALUTES'

(Mukund - Shertha)

"Long Live Mukund"

The outskirts of Shertha village was brimming with the villagers. There was a news that Mukund, the army soldier from their village, is no more now and his body will be brought and handed over to the family. Everyone was awaiting the beloved Martyr from their village.

Mukund, in his childhood, was always scared of soldiers, but his father Mr. Natvarlal Dixit always used to boost him up saying, "Son, you have to safeguard our country. Then why do you fear ?" Upon growing up, he himself took a decision of becoming an army soldier. By now he was physically as well as mentally strong. He got selected in B.S.F. After his training he was send to Punjab to get hold of the terrorists.

In Amritsar, senior officer Mr. Bhullar sahib got news that terrorists are hiding in Preetam-singh's farm house. Immediately, he took his team and headed towards the farm house to nab the terrorists. Mukund was one of the team members. There was heavy firing from both sides. One of the soldiers got hurt. Mukund lifted him up on his shoulder and went aside to a safe place. The firing was still on. Mukund was firing back with one hand and holding his companion with the other. This went on for more than one and half hours. He was promoted as Launce Nayak for his bravery and dedication towards his duty. He was also rewarded by the Indian Government.

Afterwards he was sent to Kashmir. They were posted in Kupwada village. Terrorists of Kashmir were very much aware of Mukund's bravery. So they decided to destroy the whole team with a bomb.

On October 26th there was a terrorist attack on the team. Mukund ordered his team to shoot from inside the tent. He himself went out and started shooting. Nearly 8 terrorists were killed. Suddenly he slipped from the mountain and when he was rolling down, the terrorists fired on him and he was martyred.

The whole village was filled with grieving public. Soldiers paid their honour to their brave colleague by firing in air. "Long Live Mukund" was the only slogan heard everywhere. We too salute Mukund's bravery and his strong feeling of patriotism. He had sacrificed his life for our nation. Jai Hind !!

13. 'THE MOST EXPENSIVE LAND'

(Brave Jorawarsingh & Fatehsingh)

When the Mughal's cornered the fort of Anandpur, everybody inside suggested Guru Govindsinghji to leave the fort. Hence Guru Govindsingh with his wife, mother, four sons and a few trusted people were leaving the fort at midnight. Unfortunately, one group consisting of his mother and two sons, Jorawarsingh and Fatehsingh who were just 9 and 7 years old, got separated. They were betrayed by their cook of twenty years and he handed them over to Nawab Wazir Khan. Nawab wanted both the boys to get converted to Islam otherwise they will be killed. Both the boys were very bold and brave. Hence they refused to convert. "We can die for our religion," they said. Nawab failed in all his tricks, so he ordered that both the boys be bricked alive in a wall. The kazi also tried to convince the boys. But they refused and roared like a lion saying, "Those who change their religion for fear of their life are cowards."

The construction went on. Suddenly the elder one, Jorawarsingh, started crying. Nawab thought he is scared of death. He smiled cunningly and asked, "Are you now ready to change faith?" The boy replied, "No, I don't fear death. I am crying because my younger brother is shorter, so he is getting first chance to die for my motherland and religion. He is getting chance first. This is why I'm crying." Everybody present there along with the Nawab were surprised and speechless at the love and respect for their motherland and their bravery and courage. Finally, as the last brick was done both screamed loudly – "Sat Sri Akaal, Jo Bole so Nihaal". Their little childhood voice screamed high in the hearts of Mughals. The Mughals feared them for a long time even in their dreams.

Here it is not out of place to mention that the land on which Joravarsingh and Fatehsingh were bricked alive, was bought by Diwan Todarmalji from Navab Wazirkhan at an exorbitant price for the cremation of bodies of both the children. This is considered to be the costliest land in the world because Wazirkhan had demanded it to be filled with standing gold coins. This was Todarmalji's devotion towards his Guru.

14. 'HISTORY OF SACRIFICE'

(The Brave Badal)

The brave boy, who was fighting with both hands with a sword in each, though surrounded by thousands of enemy soldiers, was slowly heading towards the fort. He shouted and alerted all the soldiers inside the fort. All the soldiers inside the fort wore saffron turbans. This was the sign of their prosperity and patriotism. They shouted, "HarHar Mahadev !" The ladies were no less brave than the soldiers. They prepared a big tank of fire called "Johar" to immolate themselves in case of defeat.

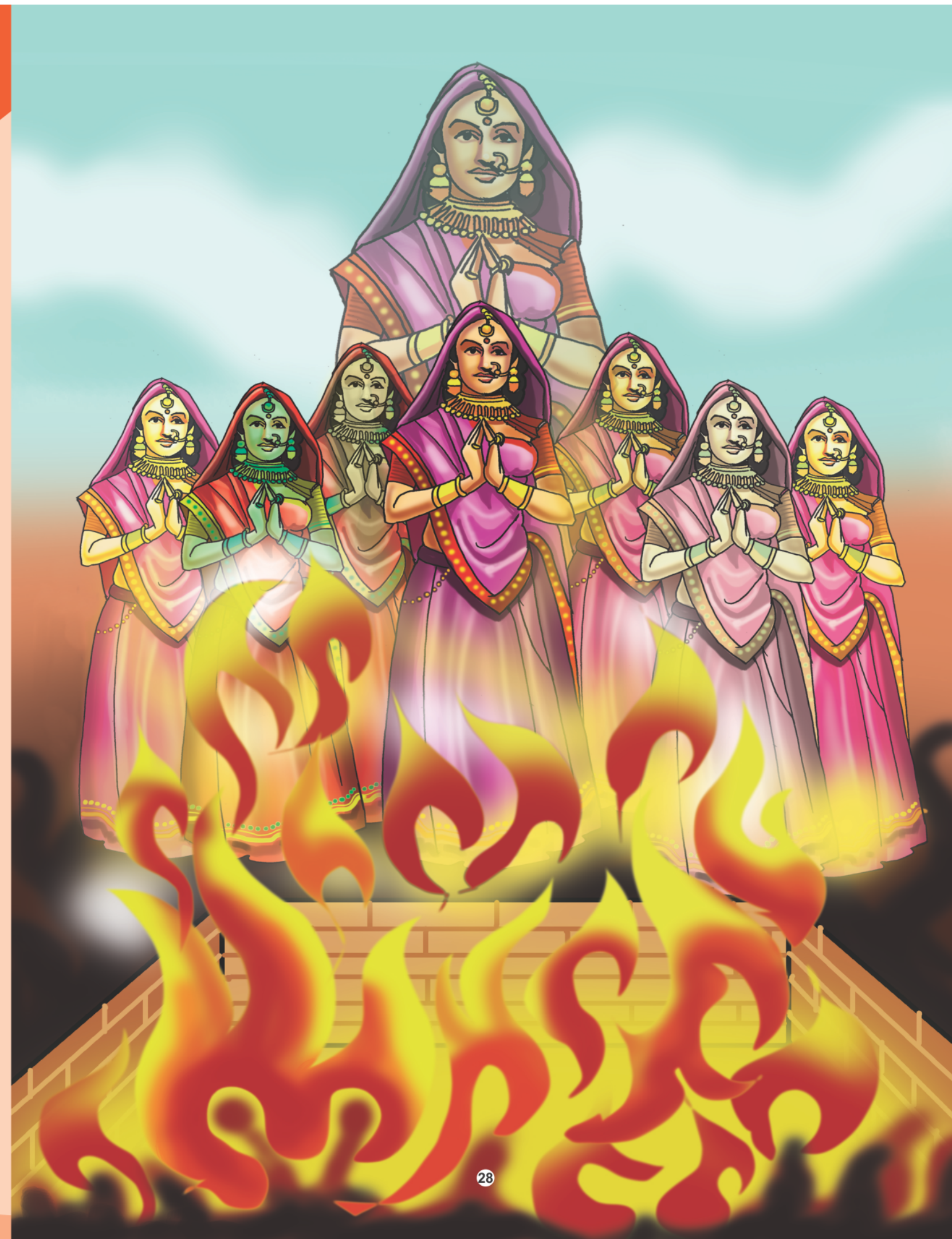
This incident took place when Rana Ratan Singh was the king of Chittor. His wife Queen Padmini was very beautiful. Her divine and incomparable beauty was famous all over the state.

The Emperor of Delhi, AllauddinKhilji, also came to know about her beauty and was now desperate to make her his queen. Khilji took 20,000 soldiers along with him to conquer Chittor. He stationed himself for nearly for 12 months outside the fort of Chittor. Now he played a game. He sent a message to Rana and told, "I just want to see Rani Padmini in the mirror. If you agree, I will return back. Otherwise I will attack Chittor and there will be bloodshed all around." Rana thought that if just by doing this thousands of lives can be saved and there is no bloodshed, then there is nothing wrong in doing so. Rana agreed and called Khilji. After seeing Rani's face in the mirror when Khilji was returning back, as per our Indian culture Rana went to see him off. As soon as Rana stepped out of the fort, Khilji's soldiers imprisoned him. There was chaos

hearing the news. Khilji's soldiers were 20,000 and they were only 2000. Direct fight was not possible.

Hence Ratan Singh's trusted Sardar Gora and Badal sent a message to Khilji that if you leave our King, in return Rani Padmavati is ready to come with you along with her 700 maid servants.

Khilji agreed for that. He was happy that he got Rani without any fight. They started celebrating. In the evening the doors of the fort opened and one by one 700 palanquins came. All the palanquins were filled with Rajput soldiers. They attacked Khilji's forces. There was a severe war. Sardar Gora Singh fought like a cheetah and took away Rana Ratan Singh with him to Chittor fort. Young soldier Badal was not less than anyone. He was fighting bravely. He killed most of the enemy soldiers. Khilji planned to capture Rani, but Badal obstructed him. Badal was the biggest obstacle now. Sardar Gora was also killed now. The Rajputs bravely fought till their last breath. But the war was now going into enemy hands as they had already crossed six out of seven gates and had almost reached the fort. Impending defeat, Rani Padmavati along with 16,000 other ladies jumped into the fire and committed Johar to safeguard their dignity and honour from the enemy. Badal and Rana were also killed. When Khilji entered the fort, he was shocked to see this.

Till date every Indian bows their head down in front of Badal's patriotism and bravery.

15. 'OYE SON OF ENGLISHMAN'

(Brave Subhash)

Subhash was sent to an English medium school when he was just 5-years old. The English boys used to make fun of Bengali boys in the class. They forced the Bengali boys to sit at the back benches. They were harassed and disrespected everywhere. Unfortunately no Bengali boy was able to protest against them. Subhash used to get upset by seeing all this.

One day all the boys were playing in the ground. Suddenly an English boy shouted, "You bloody Indians,"and he started hitting the Indian boys. Seeing this, the other English boys started clapping and laughing at them. This was so much insulting but still the Indian boys were silent.

Subhash used to see this, but now it was getting on his nerves. He was not able to tolerate any more. Suddenly he came and roared, "You bloody foreigners. What the hell you think of yourself? I am an Indian, if you have courage come and hit me. Let me see if you do so."

Seeing this face of Subhash the English boys got scared and started moving from there silently. This was not enough, Subhash shouted, "See this is how you hit." And he hit the boys, all of them fell down.

This little boy Subhash Chandra Bose became the great Indian soldier and founder of Azad Hind force. He was the one who freed our country from slavery of the British. His famous slogan was - "You give me blood and I will give you freedom."

Food for Thought

1. Dear children when situation demands, will you also show courage for the sake of you family, friends and society ?
2. Will you face the enemies of the nation with courage ?
3. Will you fight bravely against injustice ?
4. Will you show bravery in such a situation in your life ?
5. If you have had such an incident in your life, please write it down and send whatsapp to us on these numbers 98244 44431, 93765 40599

16. 'HOLD YOUR TONGUE'

(Brave Chattrasal)

Chattrasal was the son of Panna Naresh Maharaja Champatrai. He was brave and self-esteemed like his father. He lost his father when he was just 7 years old. He learned from his uncle Sujanrai.

Those days Delhi was ruled by Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. He was very cruel and was always against Hindus. Hindus used to fear him.

Today there was a holy festival in Vindyavasinidevi temple. Chattrasal along with his royal family went to the temple to commence pooja. To perform pooja he went to the garden to collect flowers. All the other children also started plucking flowers and started collecting them in a basket. Suddenly 4-5 horse riders came and started threatening them. They asked if there was any festival in the temple. When the boys said yes, they started laughing and said in a loud voice, "We have come to demolish this temple." Chattrasal's face turned hot red in anger. He warned them not to do so. One horse rider soldier said, "You little boy. Look at yourself. You are so tiny. How can you stop us from doing so ?" Chattrasal groaned in anger, "You want to see how?" And in fraction of seconds he jumped and poked the sword in his chest. He died. All his friends followed him. They started hitting them very badly. Looking at the worse situation all the riders ran away.

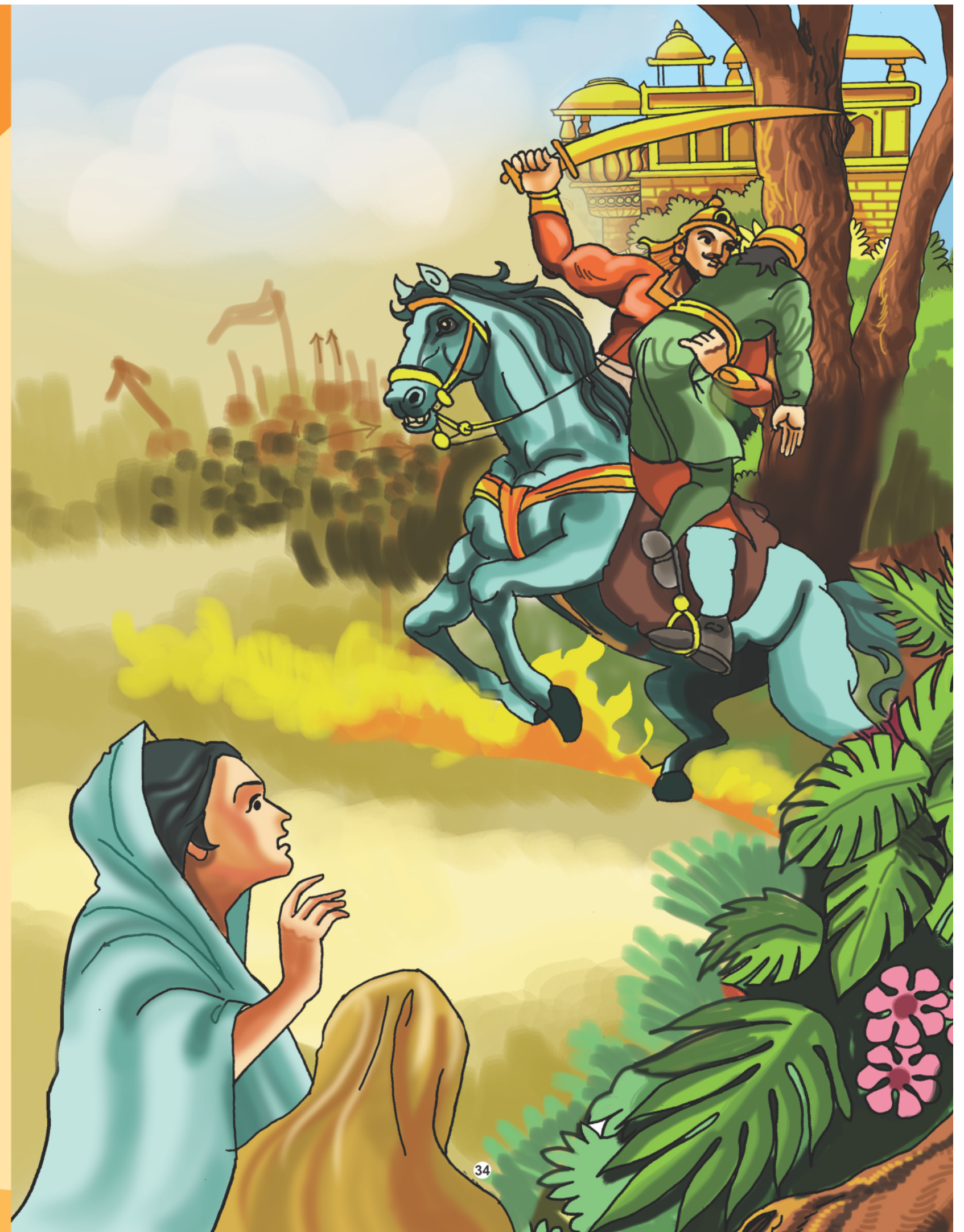
On hearing the news Sujanrai and all others came to the spot immediately. When they came to know about chattrasal's courage and bravery everybody, applaused and appreciated him.

Though he was a little boy by age physically but his feeling, love and respect towards his motherland was very high. He did not fear death. There was a spark of victory and patriotism in his eyes.

17. 'UNCLE'S DEAD BODY'

(Brave Ramsingh)

Emperor Shahjahan cheated and after killing brave Amarsingh, threw his dead body to be eaten by crows and eagles. Amarsingh's wife requested everyone to get her husband's dead body but everyone feared the Emperor. Hence she decided to do this work on her own. When Amarsingh's nephew Ramsingh heard this, he took a horse and a sword and asked his aunt to give him permission to bring back his uncle's dead body. He promised his aunt, "Either I will bring back my uncle's dead body or else I myself will die." The Emperor had old enmity with Amarsingh. Once Amarsingh was insulted by Shahjahan's brother-in-law, and was killed by Amarsingh in front of Shahjahan in his court. Hence in order to take revenge Shahjahan planned, cheated and killed Amarsingh.

Ramsingh was riding his horse and was heading towards Shahjahan's fort. As soon as he entered the fort, the soldiers there started attacking him. But this young lad was not less quick and sharp than a cheetah. He started fighting with his sword and killed many of them. He straight away went and picked his uncle's dead body on one shoulder and continued fighting with the sword with his free hand. Despite being surrounded by hundreds of soldiers, he succeeded in fulfilling his promise. Rani was waiting for him at the door steps. As soon as she saw him, she was filled with pride. She uttered, "This job was very difficult task even for the brave soldiers. They did not have the guts to do it, but you made the impossible into possible my dear boy. Your name will be written in golden words in the history of Marwar."

18. 'NOT BY WEAPONS, BUT BY MUSIC'

(The music lover – Brave Pratap)

In olden days in Rajasthan children born in Rajput families were trained in fighting with swords and other weapons, horseriding, etc. at young ages of just 10-12 years.

This incident is from the period when Maharana Prataprule d Mewar. Mughal Emperor Akbar disliked Maharana Pratap as he was very brave and refused to bow down to him. He always kept planning to conquer Chittor, the capital of Mewar. The young boys of Chittor were well trained and inducted in the army. Their patriotism was beyond limits.

But one boy Pratap(not MaharanaPratap) never used to touch any weapon. He was more fascinated by music and musical instruments. He used to sing and play sitar from his childhood. Whenever his father questioned him, he used to reply, "Why do I need a sword to protect my country? I can protect and safeguard my country with my sitar." Father always gave a sweet smile at his innocence.

Once Mughals attacked Chittor. This was the time to serve and repay the debts of the motherland. Pratap decided to be a part of it. He took his sitar and started gathering youngsters and sing patriotic songs –

"Come on brave boys our country wants us,

Motherland's respect is in danger and we have to save her."

Impressed and motivated by his words, many youngsters started joining the army. Pratap's initiative doubled the army size. A day a Mughal soldier caught Pratap outside the fort and asked him to sing and get the fort doors opened for them. Pratap agreed to do so. He played a tone on his sitar. Maharana Pratap's soldiers immediately recognized Pratap's tone. Through his tone he conveyed, "Get alert!The enemy is standing at our door. Fight back bravely." He continued playing his sitar and singing. The soldiers inside started shooting arrows and bombing the Mughals. The Mughal army faced heavy casualty.

The head of Mughal army was shocked by this sudden attack.He asked Pratap what was he playing. Pratap without any fear answered bravely, "I was alerting my soldiers, I asked them not to open the doors as enemy is standing out. Fight the enemy bravely. Hit them, attack them with force."

The Mughal soldier was shocked and surprised at Pratap's courage and fearlessness. He was speechless for sometime.Suddenly in anger, he picked his sword nd killed Pratap.

Pratap proved that war can be won with music also. Maharana Pratap performed the last rites and payed homage to him. Everybody saluted Pratap and bowed their heads down at his courage and love for his motherland.

19. 'I'LL NOT LEAVE YOU ALONE'

(The brave boy)

Rampur village was as silent as a graveyard today. There was pin drop silence everywhere. The reason was Dacoit Sumersingh. He was going to attack the village today. Though the villagers were not cowards, yet they feared him as he was cruel and dangerous. Nobody dared to face him. Whenever he attacked the village, the villagers switched off their lamps. The dacoits would bring their own torches to set fire to the village. This time was no different. They were about to do so. Suddenly the head dacoit Sumersingh saw a lamp burning. Who was so courageous to light a lamp in his house? When he opened the door of the hut, he saw an old lady lying on the cot. She was in pain. Her 10-year old son was sitting beside her. The old lady was in fear. She was advising her son to run away. "The dacoits will come and kill both of us. I can't run but atleast you save your life." But the boy vehemently denied to do so. He said, "Mom, you brought me up with so much of difficulties. You always starved but fed me. Now how can I leave you in this difficult situation and run away? I don't want you to be ashamed of me. My conscience will also curse me. Though I am not physically strong, still I'll fight against the dacoits for you." Sardarsingh standing outside the door was listening to this. He was surprised with the kid's love towards his mother and fearlessness. He remembered his own mother. They were very poor those days and hardly had any money to buy medicines for his sick mother. This was the reason why he had joined the dacoit gang. He was still regretting as he was not able to save his mother. Dacoit Sumersingh was moved by the boy's bravery. He entered the house. The old lady was frightened with fear. She started shivering. The dacoit told her not to fear. He said, "No one can switch-off the lamp of your house. This is the house in which a little child is ready to sacrifice his life for the sake of his ailing mother. We will never attack at your house. Your house will always be lit with love."

20. 'PRESENCE OF MIND AND SACRIFICE'

(The brave boy Chagan)

The brave boy Chagan saved his village from Pindara people.

Nearly 150 years ago, when our country was ruled by the British, there was injustice spread all over. People were worried always. Their life was getting difficult day by day.

This incident took place in Maroli, a small village of Navsari. News was that Talakpur village has been attacked by Pindara people and that they could attack Maroli next. This kind of incidents of loot were common in those days. Pindara people were very greedy. People all over were fed up with them, because they were crueler than dacoits. Maroli villagers had gathered and were trying to find a way to get out of this trouble.

Little boy Chagan was standing there. He suggested, "If we get together and fight with them, we can win." He said, "If a young boy from every family comes forward we can make our own army." But people feared to fight, hence no one was ready to come forward. Chagan was very much disappointed by the villagers' behaviour. He did not like their cowardness. He decided, "Even if no one comes forward, still I will fight back. I'll not give up. I will not let them loot my village."Everyone warned Chagan but he was firm in his decision. He started walking towards the river ahead. Though he did not know the route still he did not give up. The Pindara people saw him. When they asked him where he is coming from, he replied, "I'm coming from Maroli village." They asked him for directions to Maroli. He replied, "I'll guide you people to the village. Come follow me. Let's cross the river before it gets flooded." So saying, Chagan took them on the wrong path. The dacoits followed him. The Pindaras were slightly worried seeing the raging river. Chagan said,"Come fast. Cross the river before it floods."As the riverbed was slimy, they all got stuck. Chagan's plan had worked. All the Pindaras were unable to come out of the sticky mud. By that time, it was dark. This is how Chagan saved his village with his intelligence. Everybody in the village praised and thanked him for his presence of mind and bravery.

21. 'PILGRIMAGE TO PARENTS'

(Shravan Kumar)

Once upon a time, there was a young boy named Shravan Kumar. Both his parents were old and blind. This meant that he had to do all the chores and work of his family, but he still loved and was devoted to his parents. One day his old parents expressed their will to go on a pilgrimage in their last days. Shravan Kumar was determined to fulfil his parents' wish. He built a carriage which consisted of two baskets tied by 3 ropes to a rod, which could be used to carry both the baskets, just like weighing scales. He seated his parents in the baskets, mother in one and father in the other. He carried the rod on his shoulders with both the baskets on either end, and set out on a pilgrimage. with his parents.

On the way, his parents felt thirsty and wanted some water to quench their thirst. So Shravan Kumar stopped to fill a pitcher of water for them from a river. At the same time, King Dashrath was on way for hunting in the forest. When King Dashrath heard the sound of water in the river he thought he had heard an animal so he shot an arrow in that direction. Unfortunately, it was not an animal but Shravan Kumar. The arrow hit Shravan Kumar and he was close to death.

When Dashrath realized what he had done he felt very sorry and asked Shravan Kumar what he could do to help ease the pain. While breathing his last, Shravan Kumar recited his story to Dahsrath and requested him to give water to his parents. Dashrath took the pitcher of water to the blind parents. Dashrath confessed what had happened unintentionally and begged for forgiveness. On hearing what had happened both parents were full of sorrow and cursed Dashrath that he would also die in grief of the loss of a son. The parents then drowned themselves in the same river.

The moral of this story is to always be devoted to one's parents and take their utmost care just like Shravan Kumar. Also, never be afraid to admit your mistakes just like King Dashrath.

22. 'TAKEN RAJOHARAN'

(Vajraswami)

Dhanagiri was a Brahmin who lived in Tumbivan. He had a beautiful wife named Sunanda. Once her husband saw a Jain monk called sinhgiri. He was so impressed by the monk's words that dhangiri left his pregnant wife and became a Sadhu.

In course of time, Sunanda gave birth to a lovely boy. On seeing the boy, a woman of Sunanda's neighbourhood remarked, "Had Dhangiri not been a monk, he would have celebrated the birth of this child with great enthusiasm." The child heard these remarks Specially the word monkhood which he recited in his last birth for crores of times. and was so agilated that he began to cry. Thereafter, he used to cry very often and this trouble his mother.

After some time passed, arya sinhgiri visited the town with his disciples including dhangiri. Dhangiri went to Sunanda's house (to beg) for food. The child was crying then. Sunanda said to her former husband, "Look at this child, I am so much troubled by this child. Why don't you relieve me by taking him with You ?" The Sadhu said, " I am prepared to take him away but you will not ask for him again. " Thus, the monk duly accepted the child and took him heavy and hence, he was named Vajrakumar.

A shravika (female devotee) agreed to bring up this child. She Was a religious minded woman and would recite religious hymns and songs as lullabies to the child. He used to listen to these words and grasp them very quickly. He was now three years old and spoke words full of wisdom.

Sunanda came to know of the progress of her child and yearned for him. She then decided to take him back from his foster mother. She then decidec to take him back from his foster mother. She demanded him from Arya Sinhgiri but he refused to do so. Having failed, she went to the king to get the custody of her child.

The king was a little puzzled at her claim. So, he orderd the child to be placed in a corner and his father Dhangiri and his mother Sunanda to be seated in front of child. The child was then asked to select one of them. Vajrakumar approched his father, though Sunanda had placed toys and sweets near her to attract the child. The child at once picked up the Rajoharan the monk's broom. Hence, the king duly handed over the boy to Dhangiri.

One day when all the monks had gone out, Vajramuni was practicing giving sermons from a raised seat. His Guru returned and was wonder-struck to hear the excellent speech. So at a very young age, he was made Acharya. Vajraswami breathed his last on Rathavart mountain by resorting to fasting.

Moral - Always speak good words before the children.

Reciation for 1000 times is upto mind.

Reciation for Lakhs of times is upto heart. Reciation for crores of times goes to memory in next birth so Vajraswamiji got Diksha in very Childhood.

23. 'ATTAINED ENLIGHTENMENT'

(Atimukta)

Once, Gautam the disciple of Lord Mahaveer, was passing by the royal palace of the city of Polaspur. Prince Atimukta was playing with his friend when suddenly. he happened to see Gautamswami. He forgot to play with his playmates as he was so much impressed by the gentle figure of Gautam.

Gautam introdeced himself briefly by saying that he was a Shraman-Sadhu. But Atimukta was not satisfied with this information. He began to ask all kind of questions like " Where do you do ? How do you earn your bread ? Where do you come from ? And where are you going ?

Gautam said with a little smile, " We are sadhus, introspection is our aim. As for residence, we wander everywhere. To get bread is not problem for us. We eat whatever pure food we get. I have come just now from the garden outside the town. Our Guru is staying there. I will go back there".

Atimukta was much pleased and followed Gautam a long way in order to see the Guruji. Here, he Saw Lord Mahaveer preaching to the people gathered there. The words, as sweet as nectar, had great effect on him. He then presented himself to Lord Mahaveer at the end of the sermon. The prince said," O Lord ! I seek your shelter. Please intiate me as your disciple. After getting the necessary permission of his parents, Atimukta approched the Guru, and was accepted. It was now the rainy season. It had rained heavily some time earlier. Water was flowing through the channels in the corn fields. This attracted the Baal Sadhu and he stood there. Atimukta was, perhaps lost in his reverie. He came to the running brook very slowly and he put his wooden begging bowl into the water. His fellow disciples were wonder-struck at this. They left him there. The monks were now full of doubt. They began to wonder why the Guruji had intiated such a child into monkhood. They thought, "We have no right to ask the Lord in this respect." Yet they scolded the child monk. Lord Mahaveer denied to under count the child monk.

Atimukta started coming out of his reverie. He thought, "What have I done ? I have sought the Lord's shelter to lead my life-boat to its haven. What boat am i now trying to sail in these waters ? How stupid of me ! I was engrossed in the play and turned a deaf ear to my fellow monks.

As a result of this repentance, Atimukta got the inner light. He was instantly libreated from this world. He became Omniscient and Omnipotent.

Moral - Last birth's Aaradhna helps us in the next birth. Don't abuse anybody from present situation.

24. 'DIVINE CHILDREN'

One day, a group of Maharashtrian teachers came to request Poojya Gurudev Shree Vikram-surijee to tell the priest to open the doors of Derasar. The teachers had brought their students on a trip to Bijapur, Karnataka. They had reached late because the bus tyre had got punctured.

A Jain student had refused to eat or drink anything until he did Pooja. The boy had agreed to come on the trip upon the condition that he should not miss his morning Pooja and should be served Jain food. So much determination and love for religion at such a small age.

A Jain family went to a non-vegetarian restaurant, even though the little son kept refusing because he knew it was a sin. Tomato soup was served. The son said that there was a hen feather in it. His father did not believe him and scolded him. The son started crying. Finally, the father checked and felt remorseful because his son was right. Then and there, the father vowed never to go to a non-vegetarian restaurant for lifetime. The little boy had so much compassion for animals.

Moral :- Grown-ups can learn much from children whose hearts are pure and divine.